

the great body of the miners are scattered over about ten miles of the Turon river, and there are parties at work in every quarter. We learn from Mr. J. Cunningham, a very experienced miner, that there are now at work about one hundred and fifty men now at work at the junction of the Turon with the Macquarie. He had with him a piece of the precious metal weighing about an ounce, which had been found there the day before. This is the only piece of any size which has been found there, or which was dignified with that ugly little appellation "nugget."

As Mr. Cunningham is doing a flourishing business in auctioneering, he is a correspondent in the change in his sentiments relative to the gold discovery has taken place.

The principle group are yet assembled about the Wallaby Rocks, owing to the prevalence to a greater extent than in any other quarter, of the two prime requisites—gold and water. Except at the junction, there are comparatively few down the river. Our informant states that he unexpectedly found on a party working by themselves in a quiet corner, a considerable distance down the river, where they had a good supply of water and were doing well. He knew a few parties who had been getting on once a day each, but these were extreme instances. Several teams from Maitland had arrived within the last few days, and one individual from that town had opened a large store immediately upon his arrival.

As to the issue of the licenses, and the collection of the fees, were proceeding peaceably; but there was nevertheless a good deal of passive resistance. Every description of scheme and trick was resorted to by some to shirk the payment. Those who are doing very well have little inducement to scheme, and therefore come forward voluntarily to take out their licenses; but there are some, and always will be some, who, doing either indifferently or moderately well, are seriously affected by the monthly tax of 30s., and it is not surprising that they do their best to avoid payment. In such cases, many of the diggers suddenly become idle spectators, and affect to be gazing at anything about them in stupid wonder. Others scamper off into the bush, and deposit their bodies behind a tree, returning to their labour when he has disappeared, or another many evade payment altogether.

The earnings of the miners generally have not been overrated in our reports, but rather the reverse. A gentleman, an undoubted expert, recently returned from the Turon, informs us that the party to which he belonged had been procuring an ounce of gold a day each, for some time past. He mentioned the case of several others who, being equally fortunate, and informed as that he had an ounce in his pocket which had been procured by his son, who was at work by himself, in one day. Many of his neighbours, he stated, were content to make a few shillings a day, and did not make 10s. But from all we have heard, the gentleman in question has been at work in about the most productive spot yet discovered. From another respectable individual, who has given his attention to the subject, and taken pains to ascertain the general earnings of the Turon miners, we learn that they vary greatly at different points of the river, but that there were in the Turon plenty of the diggings costing thereby, they were making the most money. He fixes upon 3s. as the lowest, and rises to 30s. as the highest daily earnings. In certain cases, a higher rate of profit may occur, but they are too few in number to find a rule upon.

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On Sunday and Monday last, from forty to fifty Sydney people started back home. Many of them appear to be well, but several arrived at the mine and remain there for a few days only, to eat up a portion of their supplies, and sacrifice the remainder. How many of them mustered courage to get through the journey up in a hot sun, and to stand at the diggings appears to vary.

As regards the public peace, the very best order prevails. On Tuesday night last a party was got up, for admittance to which a charge was made, and a number of the females at the diggings. A professional gentleman from the metropolis, accompanied by his young and blushing bride, is now residing at the Turon, and it is said that he has been in the diggings operations. The party with whom he is connected have earned good wages.

THE LOWER MURRUMBIDGE.

JULY 10.—We in this district have had a fine winter so far, very mild genial weather, stock of all kinds doing well. We have had plenty of rain for present purposes, but not that quantity which is sufficient to open the ground, and saturate the ground properly. If we do not get much more copious rains very soon, we may look for another dry summer, and must suffer for the want of food and water. The people who turned their attention to ploughing the land, and putting in a crop of wheat, have now nearly completed their seed time, and a certain number of the season than the usual time, but very few people had the means of availing themselves of the fine season, as the greater part of the working bullocks died during last summer in starvation, or from the want of food. The consequence is, that the quantity of ground under wheat is not one-fourth part of what would have been put in, or of what would have been required to produce one year's food for the inhabitants of the district. The gold mania has at last taken hold of the people of this district; hundreds of men are leaving their employment and going to the diggings; and from all appearances Mr. Phillips must be employed every day, day after day, multitudes of people of all grades line our roads, making from the southern side towards the land of Ophir. Numbers are respectable in appearance, and with good equipment; but if we may judge from the physiognomy of many, the province of Victoria will be well cut of a multitude of blackguards. I much doubt if the mines will continue, when peopled with these exiles and vagabonds, and the quiet and orderly as hitherto. Some of these parties are a real pest to this part of the country in passing through it, begging their way along; some come asking for work, and are promised employment, and supper and breakfast with one night's lodging is sufficient; the place will not suit, and off they go. Others go boldly up to the public-house, order what they require, and are good enough to pay for the good things they can get, pay for it as they please, and in some instances depart without asking for their bill. I will relate one instance out of the many, but it may occupy too much of your space to print. It was a very healthy looking man called an inn last week, ordered supper of the best that could be found, and lodgings for the night, with something to drink; bespoke breakfast for the next morning, and then he hoped that it might be something better than what he had got for supper. Mine Host apologized for the beef not being so good as he could wish, but stated that he had chosen to buy it from the butcher who would prefer eggs and bacon he would warrant to please. This was agreed upon, and by and by all went to bed. The landlord ordered the cook to be on his pins early; but long before the landlord had gone to bed, the guests had gone. What was to be done? They had not paid their bill! A horse is ordered, while mine Host was loading a brace of pistols, and off he rides full gallop fully determined to make them pay down the reckoning, or have them conveyed to the nearest lock-up; after following on their track for a long way, he finds their bundles lying on the road-side at a blacksmith's shop (where he had gone aside at the time), the publican's accounts, takes the bundles in one hand, while he held his horse's bridle in the other, his late customers make their appearance, and demand their bundles. The landlord says they must

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It is reported that several specimens of gold have been found in Adilong Creek, a few miles west of Gundagai, during the last two weeks. I believe that Count Strozinski declared in a public manner, that he had discovered gold in the Western Districts are more generally known; and it behoves all who have the welfare of the colony at heart to do the utmost in their power for the preservation of peace and good order, which otherwise will be perilled by the influx of degraded characters from all parts of the world along with more respectable parties.

It is rumored in Sydney to day, that one party on the Turon picked up gold in one spot to the extent of 100lbs. weight. Setting aside the marvellous, it is nevertheless true that such a discovery would be a great boon to the colony, and would be a great inducement to the diggers to extend their operations, and I subjoin extracts of two letters I received by this morning's post:

From W. H. Smith, Esq., July 10, 1851.

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I intend going to Bathurst sometime next week, to see the gold fields there, and to see the press, whose principles are well known to be republican, no better means, I am of opinion, can be devised, to make widely known certain facts, and to show the world that a diadem of pure gold to our Most Gracious Queen, and at the same time, to show the Yankees we may shortly expect that we are a loyal community, proud of the allegiance we owe to our Sovereign.

I am, gentlemen, Your obedient servant, J. C. WHITE.

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these taxes, since the objections which you report have induced you to repeal them in a great measure such as a preliminary investigation would have elicited.

When Parliament met in February, 1849, Mr. Henry Baile, M.P. for Inverness-shire, moved for a Select Committee on the conduct of Lord Torrington. Mr. Under-Secretary Hailes defended the excellent Governor in his conduct, and scattered the invective against Mr. Baile and Mr. Hailes, as vindictive, ignorant, and weak puppets in the hands of designing conspirators in Ceylon. Lord Torrington declared in the House of Lords, that he should be prepared to defend his nomination on all points whenever the proper time should arrive. The Committee was appointed. It could discover no opinions worthy of notice in the conduct of Lord Torrington, and the matter was which had been proclaimed, or the need for prolonging its operation so long after tranquillity was restored. Lord Grey loftily refused to vouchsafe any light; so the Committee recommended a Royal Commission to inquire at Ceylon. This recommendation Ministers got rejected by a majority of 57 in this House; but Lord John Russell promised that such witnesses would be written to this effect as the Committee would nominate. The Committee unanimously requested Mr. Baile, as their Chairman, to take the task of selection; and Mr. Hailes and Mr. James Hailes, the Minister of the Interior, in the Committee consented that he should name the witnesses required; but when Parliament rose Earl Grey objected that Mr. Baile was constitutionally incompetent to do the duty of the Committee, and he refused to summon the witnesses on the score of expense. In the session of 1850 the matter was thoroughly exposed; and the Minister being nearly left in a minority—109 against 60—on a motion to appoint a Committee to inquire into the conduct of Lord Torrington, he returned to post, he promised they should be forthcoming. About this time, Sir Emerson Tennent had arrived in England, and Mr. Baile complained that Earl Grey had not kept his promise. Sir Emerson Tennent had brought forward his own name, and had been allowed a large sum of money; but he had not been allowed to go on private leave. Yet in the account, since published, of expenses for bringing the witnesses from Ceylon, who were examined before the Committee, the name of Sir Emerson Tennent—£1703 13s. 1d. But either he was sent for, or he was not sent for, and he was allowed a large sum of money; but he had not been allowed to go on private leave. Yet in the account, since published, of expenses for bringing the witnesses from Ceylon, who were examined before the Committee, the name of Sir Emerson Tennent—£1703 13s. 1d. But either he was sent for, or he was not sent for, and he was allowed a large sum of money; but he had not been allowed to go on private leave. 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